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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/536,273

03/27/2000

Steven B. Smith

13660.6

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21999 7590 06/06/2007

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EXAMINER

ADE, OGER GARCIA

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3627

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

06/06/2007

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 09/536,273	<b>Applicant(s)</b> SMITH, STEVEN B.	
	<b>Examiner</b> Garcia Ade	<b>Art Unit</b> 3627	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 April 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 20-30 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 28-30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                  | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                       |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Election/Restrictions***

1. Applicant's election with traverse of Group I (claims 28-30) in the reply filed on April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2007 is acknowledged. The traversal is on the ground(s) that the claims have been examine together since May 2004. This is not found persuasive because these inventions are distinct for the reason given in the Restriction/Restriction mailed on February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2007.

The requirement is still deemed proper and is therefore made FINAL.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 28-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Johnson [US 6,535,726], and further in view of Pare et al. [US 6,269,348].

**As per claims 28-30**, Johnson discloses a system for use in a wireless purchasing environment, comprising: an authorization processor; a vendor device for short range transmission of information regarding inventory and pricing utilizing a vendor short range communications device [see figure 2A, read as

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***fuel dispenser 220***]; a purchaser communications device utilizing an authorization microprocessor [see figure 2A: ***block 140***], a short range communications device [see figure 1A, read as site ***communications interface 186*** for communicating with other on-site systems], and a long range communications device [see figure 1A, read as an outside ***communications interface 182*** for communicating with the supporting cellular network 160]; transmit information regarding inventory, pricing [see abstract and summary of the invention], vendor identification and a sale amount through the vendor short range communications device to the purchaser communications device [see column 4: lines 11 – 19 (e.g. retail site ***identification***), and see paragraph bridging columns 7 and 8 (e.g. ***amount or a cost of the fuel dispensed***)]; and receive an authorization approval or denial from the purchaser communications device through the vendor short range communications device [see column 8: lines 39-53].

Johnson discloses all the elements per claimed invention as mention above. Johnson does not explicitly disclose a biometric input device for user identification, which allows the purchaser to request authorization for a purchase. However, Pare discloses a biometric transaction system. Pare also discloses the authorization is transmitted to the vendor for the purchase of an item. It should also be noted Pare discloses a biometric input device [see abstract and summary of the invention].

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary art at the time of the invention was made to modify Johnson to include Pare biometric transaction system. Such motivation to Johnson would have been to provide greater security against fraud for the purchaser.

**Conclusion**

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The PTO 1449 form has been considered.


5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Garcia Ade whose telephone number is 571.272.5586. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30AM - 5PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Florian Zeender can be reached on 571.272.6790. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

6. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Garcia Ade  
Examiner  
Art Unit 3627

ga

  
Primary Examiner, AU 3627